

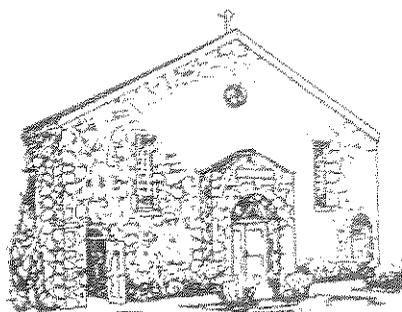
Catholic Communities

Rev. William Pifher – Parish Pastor

Our Lady of Mercy Catholic Church

St. Peter Catholic Church

Sunday
September 28, 2025
26th Sunday of Ordinary Time



409 E. Main St. / P.O. Box 429
Fayette, OH 43521
419-237-2441
Office Hours – Tues. & Thurs.
9 a.m. – 3 p.m.

MASS SCHEDULE

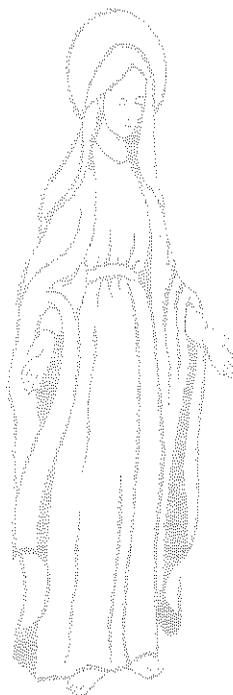
Sunday 8:30 a.m.
(Reconciliation 30 minutes
before Mass or by appointment)
Thursday 9:00 a.m.

PARISH OFFICE STAFF

Sherry Renner
Office Manager/Secretary
OLOMFayette@olom2441.onmicrosoft.com

Tami Baker
Bookkeeper
OLOMBookkeeper@olom2441.onmicrosoft.com

Mary Bird
CRE
OLOMCre@olom2441.onmicrosoft.com



614 N. Defiance St.
Archbold, Ohio 43502
Rectory – 419-446-9288
Office hours – Tues. & Thurs.
9 a.m. – 3 p.m.

MASS SCHEDULE

Saturday 4:30 p.m.
Sunday 10:30 a.m.
Tuesday 7:00 p.m.
Wednesday 9:00 a.m.
Thursday 9:00 a.m.

PARISH OFFICE STAFF

Kim Garrow
419-446-2150
Office Manager/Secretary
stpeter@rtexcexpress.net

Doug Williams
Bookkeeper

Deb Herring
CRE

PASTORAL COUNCIL

Ron Eisel – President
Pat Eisel
Ray Hollstein
Mike Burkholder
Traci Maginn
Barbara Roby

FINANCE COUNCIL

Terry Kovar
Barb Bruggeman
Joanna Marry

Council meetings are generally held the 3rd Thursdays of the month
5:45 p.m. – Finance
6:15 p.m. – Pastoral



Clothing items can be donated via our drop off site on the east side of the building. Our store is open on Thursdays from 10 a.m. - 2 p.m. Contact Rhonda Monahan at 517-306-7986 for information

OUR LADY OF MERCY WEBSITE (bulletin online)
Stpeterarchbold.com/
our-lady-of-mercy

BULLETIN DEADLINE

Please note that the bulletin deadline is **Tuesday by noon**. Please either call, email or put in the collection basket any announcement for the following weeks bulletin.

Welcome to Our Lady of Mercy

Parish Mission Statement

Our Lady of Mercy Catholic Church is united by our commitment to minister to the physical and spiritual needs of our rural families and steward the resources entrusted to us. We value the diversity within our Catholic community and invite all to walk with us on our journey of faith.

New Parishioners

A warm welcome as you enter our Parish Community! You are asked to register at the parish office or see the pastor as soon as possible. If you are moving from the parish, please inform the office so we may remove your name from our parish records.

Sacrament of Baptism

Please call the office 419-237-2441 or Father Pifher at 419-446-9288 to make arrangements for Baptism. A month's notice would be helpful.

Sacrament of Marriage

Initial arrangements are to be made six months prior of your planned wedding date. The Diocesan policy is to allow sufficient time for the couple to make adequate preparation to receive the sacrament. Please call the office 419-237-2441 or Father Pifher at 419-446-9288 to make arrangements.

Anointing of the sick

Please call the office 419-237-2441 or Father Pifher 419-446-9288 to make arrangements for a visit.

Order of Christian Initiation of Adults (OCIA)

Having questions about the Catholic faith? Thinking of joining the Catholic Church? You can learn more by contacting the office 419-237-2441 or Father Pifher 419-446-9288 for the process.

Prayer Chain

Anyone wishing to submit prayer requests can email or call Our Lady of Mercy office.

Email: olomprayerchain@olom2441.onmicrosoft.com

Privacy issues for Parish Office:

IMMEDIATE FAMILY - must contact the Parish Office for all prayer requests to be posted in the parish bulletin. Contact Sherry Renner at the parish office at 419-237-2441, no later than Thursday at noon or email to olomfayette@olom2441.onmicrosoft.com with the exact verbiage requested. By law, the parish office does not divulge private information we receive from hospitals

September 28, 2025 – 26th Sunday of Ordinary Time

ROSARY WILL BE PRAYED SUNDAYS AT 8 A.M.

FAITH FORMATION (Religious Education)

Classes today after Mass.

OCTOBER MONTH OF THE ROSARY AND RIGHT FOR LIFE

Our Lady of Mercy will be praying the Rosary for the Right for Life on Thursdays, starting October 2nd at 7:00 p.m. Please see the window to the cry room for all events in the Diocese for Right for Life.

OCTOBER FAYETTE COMMUNITY MEAL

Our Lady of Mercy's Altar Rosary will be hosting the Fayette Community Meal on Wednesday, October 15, 2025, 5:00 p.m. – 6 p.m. The Altar Rosary is asking Our Lady of Mercy's parishioners for their help. We are in need of desserts and help to set-up/serve/clean-up. If you would like to supply a dessert or would like to help, please contact Sherry Renner.

33 DAY TOTAL CONSECRATION TO JESUS THROUGH MARY

Join Fr. Bill at St Peter in Archbold in making a 33 day Total Consecration to Jesus through Mary during the month of October. It only takes about 12 minutes a day. It was the great St. Louis de Montfort, often referred to as the Apostle of Mary, who pioneered this spiritual path. St. Pope John Paul II said that reading that saint's famous book, True Devotion to Mary, was turning point in his own life and spiritual outlook. I certainly recommend that book, and one could make the Consecration using it. There are daily prayers, Scripture and readings (mostly from St. Thomas Kempis' classic Imitation of Christ.) There is, however, a more modern path to the Consecration developed by Fr. Michel Gaitley, MIC, and contained in his book/videos *33 Days to Morning Glory*. It contains readings and information from Marian saints such as Maximillian Kolbe, Mother Theresa, and John Paul II. You don't even have to buy the book, as it is available online: simply google 33 days to Morning Glory free online pdf and you will find a site that has it, such as <https://olhoc.com/week1>. I then plan to have Marian sessions including small group discussions on most of the Wednesday's in the evening during the month of October. It would be great if we could get 50 people to commit to the 33 Days to Consecration (even if just doing it wholly on your own). I am confident this will unleash a river of grace, blessing and protection for our families and parish's.

ST. PETER NEWS

EUCCHARISTIC ADORATION

Every Tuesday starting at 8 a.m. ending with Mass at 7 p.m.

OCTOBER 4, 2025

First Saturday 8:30 a.m. Rosary

ORDINARY LIVES

EXTRAORDINARY MISSION

October 22, 2025 at 7:00 p.m.

Topic - Eucharistic Revival:

Renewing the church by igniting our relationship with Jesus through the Eucharist – Flyer on the back tables (OLOM)

Did you know that Deacon Larry Zachrich is also available for Baptisms and Weddings? Contact Larry at 419-966-7091.

FAYETTE/SURROUNDING AREA COMMUNITY EVENTS

---Oct. 15 – Fayette Community Meal provide by Our Lady of Mercy Altar Rosary

THIS WEEK'S MASS SCHEDULE

| <i>Date</i> | <i>Time</i> | <i>Church</i> | <i>Intention</i> |
|-----------------|--------------------------------------------|----------------|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| Sun., Sept. 28 | 8:30 a.m. 10:30 a.m. | OLOM SP | For the People Al Holland Gina Damman |
| Mon., Sept. 29 | NO MASS | | |
| Tues., Sept. 30 | 6:30 p.m. | SP | For the People |
| Wed., Oct. 1 | 9:00 a.m. | SP | For the People |
| Thurs., Oct. 2 | 9:00 a.m. | OLOM | For the People |
| Fri., Oct. 3 | 9:00 a.m. | SP | For the People |
| Sat., Oct. 4 | 8:30 a.m. (First Saturday) 4:30 p.m. | SP SP | For the People Jane Anderson Mikolaj Wlasiuk |
| Sun., Oct. 5 | 8:30 a.m. 10:30 a.m. | OLOM SP | Marcel Bonin Living & Deceased Sarnac family Cathy Warner, Carolyn Bigger, Lenny, Andy & Cari Breidenbach |

PRAYERS FOR / FROM PARISHIONERS

Please keep the following person(s) / intention(s) in your prayers this week.

Shirley Taylor
Denise Miller

33 Days Total Consecration to Jesus through Mary
Right to Life

If you have someone or an intention you would like the Parish to pray for, please contact the office at 419-237-2441 or email olomprayer@olom2441.onmicorsoft.com before noon on Tuesday.

NEXT WEEK'S MINISTERS – OCTOBER 5, 2025

| | |
|-------------------------|--------------------------------------------|
| Greeters / Gifts | Ron & Pat Eisel |
| Proclaimer | Pat Eisel |
| Servers | Myla & Mike Burkholder |
| Ushers | Ron & Pat Eisel |
| Money Counters | Barb Bruggeman/Joanna Marry/Michelle Miron |

SACRIFICIAL OFFERING REPORT

Reported for September 20, 2025

| | |
|--------------------------------|---------------------------|
| Sunday Offertory (9 envelopes) | \$ 841.00 |
| Loose Offerings | \$ 135.00 |
| BUDGET | <u>\$ 1,747.00</u> |
| Over / (Under) | (\$ 771.00) |

OTHER COLLECTIONS

| | |
|--------------------------------|--------------------|
| CPC Jar & Votives | \$ 25.00 |
| Rel. Ed registration | \$ 140.00 |
| Maintenance | \$ 80.00 |
| Postage Help | \$ 20.00 |
| Stipend | \$ 10.00 |
| Feast Day Celebration donation | <u>\$ 1,780.00</u> |
| TOTAL COLLECTIONS | \$ 3,031.00 |
| (Sunday Offertory & Other) | |

SAINTS OF THE DAY (www.morningoffering.com)

Week of September 28 – October 4

St. Wenceslaus (907–935 A.D.) was the son of the Duke of Bohemia. His grandfather was converted to Christianity by the missionaries Sts. Cyril and Methodius. His mother, Dragomir, was the daughter of a pagan tribal chief who was baptized at her marriage. After the death of his father, Wenceslaus received a Christian upbringing from his grandmother, St. Ludmila, while his mother reverted to her pagan ways. Dragomir reigned as regent, had St. Ludmila killed, and worked to oppose the spread of Christianity in Bohemia. When St. Wenceslaus was 18 he took control of the government and exiled his mother. St. Wenceslaus was described as a pious, humble, and intelligent ruler who worked to establish Christianity in the land that would become part of the Holy Roman Empire. He was known for his vow of virginity, his many virtues, and his life of prayer and good works. After a political dispute arose, his mother and his younger brother, called Boleslaus the Cruel, plotted his murder along with a group of disaffected nobles. Boleslaus invited his brother to celebrate the feast of Sts. Cosmas and Damian, and arranged to have him assassinated on his way to Mass. St. Wenceslaus muttered words of forgiveness as he died, and his body was buried at the murder site. His brother succeeded him as Duke of Bohemia. Three years later Boleslaus repented of his crime, and had his brother's remains transferred to the Church of St. Vitus in Prague. Wenceslaus was considered a saint by the people at the time of his death. His feast day is September 28th.

The Archangels St. Gabriel, St. Michael, and St. Raphael share a feast day on September 29th. These are the only three angels mentioned by name in Sacred Scripture. St. Gabriel means "Power of God." He is the messenger or herald angel most famous for appearing to the Blessed Virgin Mary at the Annunciation (Luke 1:11-38). St. Michael means "Who is like God?" He is the warrior angel, the famous foe of Satan, who is the champion of God's people and guardian and protector of the Church (Rev. 12:7-9). St. Raphael means "God has healed." He is a companion and healing angel, most famous for curing a man's blindness and for traveling with Tobiah in the book of Tobit (Tob. 12).

St. Jerome (347 – 420) was born to a wealthy pagan family in Dalmatia. He was sent to Rome for his schooling and there converted to Christianity, being baptized by Pope Liberius. He studied theology and traveled widely to the important intellectual and theological centers across the newly-established Christian Empire. He was ordained a priest at Antioch and lived many years as a hermit in a nearby desert. He became an extraordinary scholar, considered to be the most learned of the Latin Church Fathers. Because of his many significant theological works, most notably the thirty years he spent writing the Latin translation of the Bible (the Latin Vulgate), he is one of the most influential and orthodox theologians in the life of the early Church. In his final years Saint Jerome lived in a monastery that he founded in the Holy Land near Bethlehem, where he worked on writing histories and biographies in addition to drawing deeper into a life of prayer and asceticism. For his important scholarly contributions St. Jerome was named a Doctor of the Church. He is the patron of libraries, archaeologists, students, and translators. St. Jerome's feast day is September 30th.

St. Therese of Lisieux (1873-1897) was the last of nine children born to Saints Louis and Zélie Martin in Alençon, France. Her family was devoutly religious, and all five surviving siblings, all daughters, entered the convent. From an early age Therese desired to give herself totally to Jesus. Her happy childhood gave way to trial following the death of her mother when she was four years old. This event changed her personality from merry and bright to withdrawn and sensitive. She also suffered a strange illness that brought her near death. Her sisters prayed for her recovery, and Therese was completely healed after she saw the Virgin Mary statue in her room smile down on her. Just before her 14th birthday, on Christmas Eve, Therese had a mystical experience of the Child Jesus. Her sensitiveness disappeared and her faith was greatly fortified. She attended daily Mass with her father and cultivated her strong desire for the salvation of souls. At the age of 15 she obtained special permission to enter the Carmelite convent in Lisieux where two of her sisters were professed. Recognizing her youth and weakness, and unable to do the great things for God in the world that her heart desired, she determined that she would follow the path of spiritual childhood at the feet of Jesus, as his "Little Flower", and instead focus on small acts of kindness for love of Jesus and interior acts of self-denial, a spirituality called "The Little Way." Therese died of Tuberculosis at the age of 24, and her high degree of

(St. Therese of Lisieux – cont.)

holiness was discovered through her autobiography, *Story of a Soul*. Her "Little Way" became profoundly influential around the world, and although she was not a learned scholar, her deep theological life caused Pope St. John Paul II to declare her a Doctor of the Church. She is the patron against sickness, tuberculosis, and loss of parents, as well as of pilots, air crews, florists, missionaries, and the sick. St. Therese of Lisieux's feast day is October 1st.

October 2nd is the **Feast of the Guardian Angels**. Although Guardian Angels have been venerated since the early days of the Church, it wasn't until the 17th century that Pope Clement X extended their feast day to the Universal Church. Although not a dogmatic article of the faith, it is a firmly established Catholic belief that each individual human being has their own Guardian Angel assigned to them by God to watch over their soul, help them avoid sin and temptation, and lead them to heaven, taken in part from Jesus' words in the Gospel of Matthew: "See that you do not despise one of these little ones, for I say to you that their angels in heaven always look upon the face of my heavenly Father." The Church thanks God for our heavenly helpers, the Guardian Angels, who minister to us in our need and guide us on the path of salvation.

St. Theodore Guerin (1798–1856), also known as St. Theodora, was born in Etables, France, towards the end of the French Revolution. She was a pious child who loved prayer and who knew her vocation was to be a nun. However, she was delayed in following this path after the murder of her father when she was 15, which, in addition to the previous death of two of her siblings, sent her mother into a deep depression. St. Theodore took on the household tasks and the care of her mother and her remaining sister. Finally, when she was 25, her mother gave her consent, and Theodore left home to enter the religious life. She joined the Sisters of Providence who served God by educating children and caring for the poor, the sick, and the dying. In 1840 she was asked to lead a band of missionary sisters and establish her order in the United States of America, specifically to serve the pioneers in Indiana. Even though her health was fragile, she crossed the Atlantic and then traveled by steamboat and stagecoach until she reached the wilderness mission of St. Mary of the Woods, which consisted only of a tiny log chapel. She and her five sisters endured the extreme hardships common to life on the frontier. Less than a year after arriving she opened an academy which became the first Catholic women's Liberal Arts college in the United States, still active today, called St. Mary of the Woods College. St. Theodore also established numerous schools, pharmacies, and orphanages throughout the state of Indiana. She was beatified by Pope John Paul II and canonized in 2006 by Pope Benedict XVI. Her feast day is October 3rd.

St. Francis (1181-1226) was born in Assisi, Italy, to a wealthy cloth merchant. He was a spoiled child given to pleasure, fine dress, liberal spending, and worldliness. Handsome and courteous, he was a favorite among the nobility. As a chivalrous young knight he took part in a battle between the Italian city-states and became a prisoner of war in Perugia. After his release he became seriously ill, and while reflecting on his wanton life he had a profound conversion experience. He gave up his frivolous life, cut off his family ties, and embraced a life of extreme penance and poverty in such a dramatic manner that it caused many to think he had gone mad. While praying before a crucifix in the church of San Damiano in Assisi he received a call from Christ to rebuild the Church, "which had fallen into ruin." St. Francis followed Christ in a radical manner by patterning his new life after the example of the Apostles in the most literal way possible: he dressed as a poor peasant, worked odd jobs for food, and went through the countryside preaching repentance, love of Jesus, and peace. His joyful, radical way of life attracted followers, and with them he founded the Order of Friars Minor and the Poor Clares. His order was approved by the Holy See in 1210 and grew rapidly. Two years before his death he became the first known saint to receive the stigmata. His holiness was so widely attested that only two years after his death the Church proclaimed him a saint. St. Francis of Assisi is the patron saint of peace, ecology, the environment, animals, Italy, merchants, and families. His feast day is October 4th.

**ASK HER – SIMPLE WORDS TO JUMPSTART
YOUR CONVERSATION WITH MARY**

By Jane Tufant Harvey

“Ask Her...if she'd help you truly embrace that it's okay to be broken, afraid, or weak. You might make mistakes, cause calamity, or have lapses in judgement. But no matter what, you will always be intrinsically worthy of love.”

DIARY OF SAINT MARIA FAUSTINA KOWALSKA

Notebook 3

1226 Today bring to Me souls who have become lukewarm, and immerse them in the abyss of My mercy. These souls wound My Heart most painfully. My soul suffered the most dreadful loathing in the Garden of Olives because of lukewarm souls. They were the reason I cried out: “Father, take this cup away from Me, if it be Your will.” For them, the last hope (65) of salvation is to flee to My mercy.

MESSAGES OF MEDJUGORJE

On the 25th of day of each month the Queen of Peace gives a message to the visionary, Marija Pavlovic, for the whole world.

Up-to-date messages may be obtained at <http://www.medjugorje.org>

April 30, 1984 (Monday) - “Marija asked Our Lady, “Dear Madonna, why didn't you give me a message for the parish on Thursday?” Our Lady replied, “I do not wish to force anyone to do that which he/she neither feels nor desires, even though I had special messages for the parish by which I wanted to awaken the faith of every believer. But only a really small number has accepted my Thursday messages. In the beginning there were quite a few. But it's become routine affair for them. And now recently some are asking for the message out of curiosity, and not out of faith and devotion to my Son and me.””

UPCOMING PARISH EVENTS

---Sept. 24 – 33 Days Total
Consecration to Jesus through
Mary - informational meeting
at St. Peter 6:45 p.m.

---Sept. 28, Oct. 12 & Oct. 26 –
Faith Formation class after
Mass

---Oct. 15 – Fayette
Community Meal 5 – 6 p.m.
Altar Rosary hosting

Word(s) of the week (from the
America College Dictionary)

RIGHTEOUS— in accordance with
right; upright or virtuous

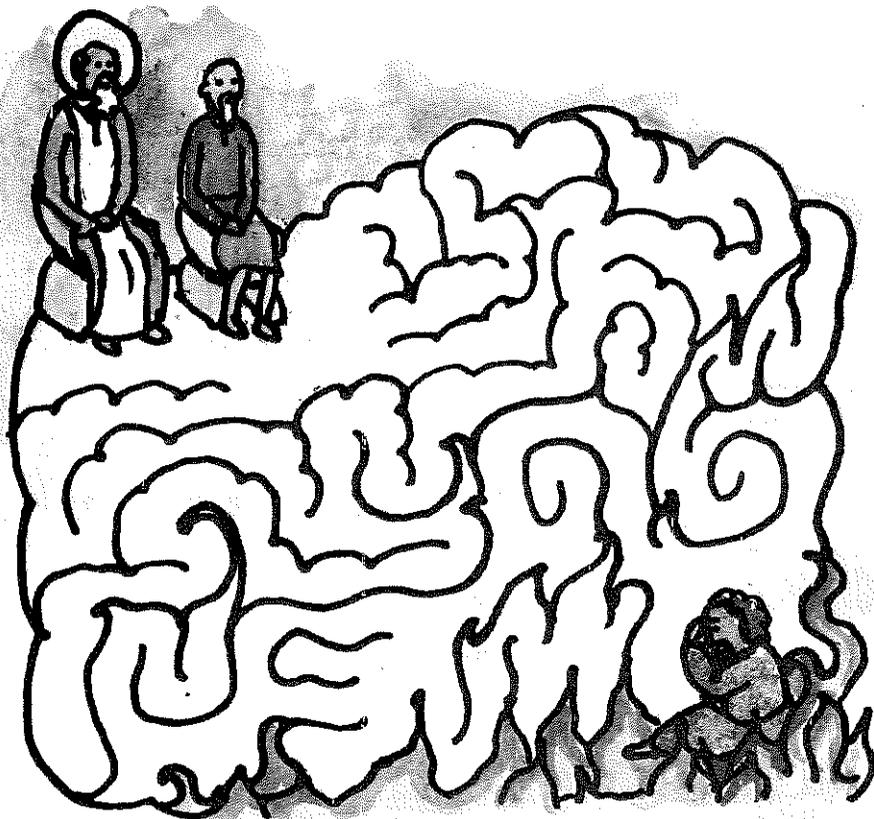
“When the poor man died, he was carried away by
angels to the bosom of Abraham.”

Luke 16:22

The Kids' Bulletin

26th Sunday in Ordinary Time

September 28th, 2025



Luke 16:19-31

*In Jesus' parable, the rich man
asks Abraham to send Lazarus to him
with a drop of cool water.
But can Lazarus cross between
Heaven and Hell?
See if the maze will let him cross.*

Saint Francis of Assisi

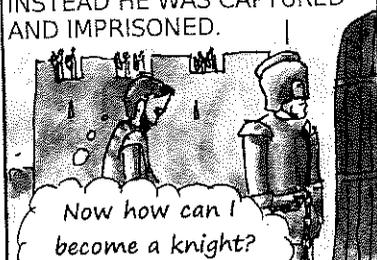
October 4

FRANCIS WAS BORN TO A RICH MERCHANT FAMILY IN ITALY IN 1181. HE WAS SPOILED BUT WAS STILL FUN AND LOVED HAVING PARTIES WITH HIS FRIENDS.



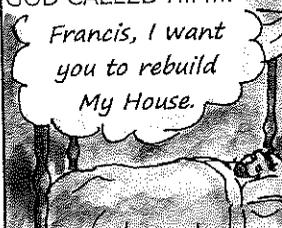
Mom, please can my friends come over again?

HE WENT TO WAR HOPING TO BECOME A KNIGHT, BUT INSTEAD HE WAS CAPTURED AND IMPRISONED.

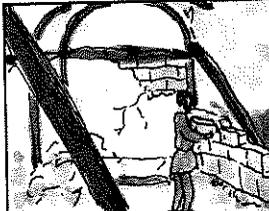


Now how can I become a knight?

WHEN HE GOT HOME HE WOULD HAVE GONE BACK TO WAR, BUT GOD CALLED HIM...



Francis, I want you to rebuild My House.



PEOPLE THOUGHT HE WAS CRAZY, BUT HE HAD DECIDED TO GIVE HIS LIFE TO GOD.

HE GAVE AWAY EVERYTHING HE HAD, EVEN TRADING CLOTHES WITH A BEGGAR!



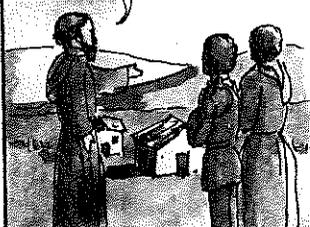
Ugh!... the poor man. I should give him my clothes...

NOW FRANCIS WENT AROUND PREACHING AND TEACHING PEOPLE TO REPENT FROM THEIR SINS.



How can you say you love God when you make wealth your idol?

We can live in these shacks.

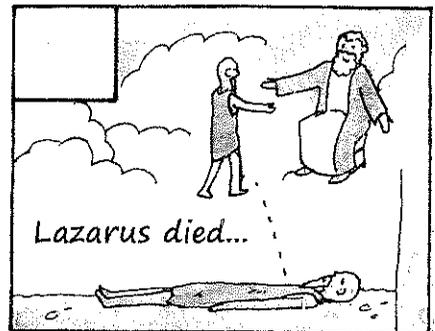
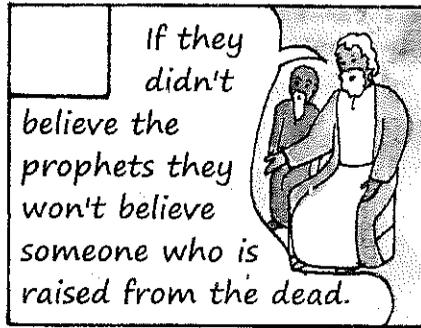


MANY PEOPLE SAW HOW HOLY AND HAPPY FRANCIS WAS, SO THEY GAVE UP THEIR POSSESSIONS AND FOLLOWED HIM. SOON THERE WERE 5000 FOLLOWERS!

SAINT FRANCIS LIVED A LIFE OF POVERTY AND HUMILITY EVEN THOUGH THOUSANDS OF PEOPLE BEGAN TO FOLLOW IN HIS FOOTSTEPS. SOON THE ORDER OF FRIARS MINOR (FRANCISCANS) WAS STARTED. SAINT FRANCIS ALSO RECEIVED THE STIGMATA. HE DIED AT AGE 45 AFTER SEVERAL YEARS OF SICKNESS.

Sort-the-Pictures

Lazarus and the Rich Man



In this story are Lazarus, the rich man, and Abraham.
The pictures are not in order, though.
Can you put the numbers from 1 to 6 in the corners to
show their proper order?

Lazarus and the Rich Man

In today's Gospel Jesus tells a parable about a rich man and a poor man. While they were alive, the rich man had everything he wanted. He feasted every day and was never hungry. Meanwhile Lazarus, the poor man, lay in the rich man's gate, always hungry and sick. Even the dogs came to lick the sores on his body.

Once the men died everything changed. The rich man went to Hell. He got what he deserved for thinking only of himself while he was alive. Lazarus, on the other hand, went to be with Abraham in Heaven. He had suffered so much while he was alive, but now he was perfectly happy.

The rich man wanted a drop of water to cool his tongue but Lazarus couldn't help him. He found out what happens if you only think about getting the best for yourself. What does this story make you want to do for the poor and suffering people around you?



Maze on Front: you can't cross from Heaven to Hell or vice-versa.
Answers to Sort-out-the-pictures: Top: 6,3 Middle: 1,4 Bottom: 5,2